

Wyoming Veterans' Commission



Veterans Benefits Booklet

Revised 2006

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**THE REVISION AND REPUBLICATION OF THIS ISSUE OF
VETERANS BENEFITS WAS PAID FOR BY THE VETERANS OF
WYOMING THAT OBTAINED AND PROUDLY DISPLAYED
VETERANS' SERVICE EMBLEMS ON THEIR LICENSE PLATES.**

**MORE INFORMATION? CONTACT THE STATE OFFICE OF THE
WYOMING VETERANS' COMMISSION , CASPER OFFICE AT 1-800-833-5987 OR
307-265-7372. THE CHEYENNE OFFICE CAN BE REACHED AT 307-772-5016.**

IMPORTANT VA PHONE NUMBERS

For Information On:

VA Benefits

Health Benefits

Cheyenne VAMC

Sheridan VAMC

Education Benefits

Life Insurance

Debt Management

Mammography Hotline

Telecommunication Device

For the Deaf (TDD)

CHAMPVA

Headstones and Markers

Gulf War & Agent Orange Helpline

Health Eligibility Center

1644 Tullie Circle

Atlanta, GA 30329-2303

Call:

1-800-827-1000

1-877-222-8387

1-888-483-9127

1-307-672-3473

1-888-442-4551

1-800-669-8477

1-800-827-0648

1-888-492-7844

1-800-829-4833

1-800-733-8387

1-800-697-6947

1-800-749-8387

1-404-235-1257

or

1-800-929-8387

**VA also has a toll-free bulletin board, called VA ONLINE,
Which can be reached at 1-800-US1-VETS (871-8387)**

**[Source: Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents 2005 Edition.
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.**

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DIRECTOR'S INTRODUCTION

Wyoming Veterans, this book is for you. It has been prepared to give you as much information about veterans benefits under both state and federal laws, as we are able to do. For more details, call the state office of the Wyoming Veterans' Commission at 1-800-833-5987. Casper area callers: (307) 265-7372. Cheyenne area callers: (307) 772-5016.

The first part of this book describes the benefits given you by the State of Wyoming. The second part describes the benefits to which you are entitled under federal law, and it refers you to the appropriate federal agencies that can answer your questions about the benefits they administer.

We hope you will refer to this book often and use the information in it for your personal questions and problems as well as those of your friends.

Remember that you earned the benefits described in this book when you served your country. Upon entering the Armed Forces you were promised that when you left the service, veterans benefits would be available as part of your service pay. It is the job of the Wyoming Veterans' Commission to acquaint you with what benefits are available and how you should go about getting them. This book has been written, therefore, in partial fulfillment of that obligation.

PLEASE NOTE: The information presented in this book, in many instances, is in summary form. For further details, readers need to go to the primary source and read the full text. Too, the information is based on laws that could change after publication. When this book was prepared it was based on laws in effect at time of printing. Addresses and telephone numbers used in this book are always subject to change. If you find an agency has made changes, please provide us with its current address and telephone number. While calling, get its most up-to-date and detailed information. If you have trouble reaching it, call us so we can help you.

Thank you for what you did for our country.

WYOMING VETERANS' COMMISSION

The name and telephone number of the Commissioner representing your district can be obtained by calling the Commission office at 1-800-833-5987 or 307-265-7372.

Lee Alley, Commissioner

Patty Burgin, Commissioner

Bob DeBernardo, Commissioner

Arlo "Al" Ellefson, Commissioner

Burton Hutchinson, Sr., Commissioner

Robert Craft, Jr., Commissioner

Jana Ginter, Commissioner

James N. Washam, Commissioner

Pete Quinnell, Commissioner

Ron Wood, Commissioner

Herman Emmett, Commissioner

Scott Smith, Commissioner

WYOMING VETERANS' COMMISSION OFFICE STAFF

Cheyenne Office:

Donald W. Ewing, State Director

Shawna Melendez, Executive Assistant

Casper Office:

Barry D. Gasdek, State Veteran's Service Officer

Mark Hicks, Veteran's Outreach Supervisor

Kathy Jacobs, Senior Secretary

Terisa Williamson, Administrative Assistant

ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION

There are two other sources besides this book to which you can go to get essentially the same information that is presented here. The first is a toll-free telephone number, 1-800-832-1959, extension 5059. The Cheyenne Office can be reached at (307) 772-5016. A live person with whom callers can talk is available during regular business hours.

The second source can be found in the Wyoming World Wide Web pages. People on the Internet can go to the following address using their web browser: <http://wyoguard.state.wy.us/> and then click on "Click here to view the Veterans Benefits Handbook" to read it on the computer.

The Commission plans to keep this source, as well as the 1-800 number, current when any informational changes of significance occur.

WYOMING STATE BENEFITS

OREGON TRAIL STATE VETERANS' CEMETERY

**P.O. Box 669
Evansville, Wyoming 82636
Phone: (307) 235-6673**

The Oregon Trail State Veterans' Cemetery has been established through the cooperative efforts of the Veterans' Commission acting for the State of Wyoming and the National Cemetery Administration of the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs, successor to the Veterans Administration. The Wyoming Military Department supervises and controls the state veterans' cemetery.

Every veteran that received any discharge, other than dishonorable, from the Armed Forces of the United States is eligible for burial in the cemetery. The spouse, handicapped or minor child of an eligible veteran may also qualify for burial in the State Veterans' Cemetery, providing that the interment of the qualifying family member is in the same burial plot as that provided for the veteran.

Burial plots will be assigned on a first come first served basis as the need arises. There will be no charge made for any burial plot. A vault will be required. All expenses incurred by the survivors for services and supplies provided by a funeral director of their choice or transportation to the State Cemetery must be paid for by the survivors or by private funds.

Any eligible veteran or qualified family member on his or her behalf may apply for a burial plot in the state veterans' cemetery, when the need arises, by submitting a request to the cemetery Director on proper forms.

All burial services are held in the chapel and patio area. No services are held at the gravesite. The director may assist the next of kin in making arrangements for military honors provided by the United Veterans Council of Natrona County and local veteran groups or military units. Services will be scheduled for weekdays only.

Only the flat, granite grave markers provided by the United States Government are authorized for individual grave markings. These rules, along with the National Cemetery Administration regulations will govern the use of this cemetery.

PAYMENT FOR BURIAL DETAILS (HONOR GUARD)

Veterans Organizations that routinely act as burial details for State Veterans may apply for payment of services at the rate of up to \$25 per veteran. Application for recognition needs to be made by 1 November to be effective the following year. For more details contact any Commissioner or the State Office in Casper at (307) 265-7372. (Section 19-14-109, W.S.)

BURIAL OF INDIGENT VETERANS

Counties are obliged to provide up to \$500 for the burial of indigent veterans upon proof that the deceased veteran received a discharge other than dishonorable for service on behalf of the United States in World War II, or any preceding war, or the Korean or Vietnam wars. The indigent veteran must have died in the county paying the expenses and proof must be shown that he/she left insufficient means to defray the expense. (Section 19-14-101, W.S.)

VETERANS' HOME OF WYOMING

700 Veterans Lane,
Buffalo, Wyoming 82834-9402
(307) 684-5511

This home is located on the historic site of Fort McKinney. It was built in the summer and fall of 1878. The home was established in 1895 with the first member being housed at Fort D. A. Russell (now F.E. Warren AFB) in Cheyenne, Wyoming. The home and its resident were transferred from Cheyenne to the home's present location in 1903. It is located three miles west of Buffalo, one-half mile south of Highway 16, at the base of the majestic Big Horn Mountains. Clear Creek from the Big Horns runs through the center of the area surrounding the home and supplies the fresh water for the resident trout pond.

Eligibility and admission policy procedures are as follows:

1. An applicant for admission must be a resident, in Wyoming, with a valid Wyoming address at the time of application.
2. An applicant that has resided in Wyoming less than one year must declare his/her intent to reside permanently or indefinitely in the State of Wyoming.
3. An applicant cannot be in transit or indicate temporary or seasonal residency in the state.
4. A resident must be a veteran or qualified nonveteran.
5. A nonveteran may be admitted when there is a 10% vacancy. A widow or widower of a veteran is considered a nonveteran.
6. A resident must be able to maintain activities of daily living.

7. All prospective residents are asked to visit the home for a personal interview with the nurse to review the application with an administration staff member.
8. A veteran must include a copy of his/her Honorable Discharge with the completed application for admission.
9. A resident cannot be gainfully employed.
10. The federal government mandates that at least 75% of Veterans' Home of Wyoming residents are veterans.

Resident maintenance fees are based on ability to pay with the monthly maximums reviewed annually. Veterans receive a reduction from the maximum as a result of payments received on their behalf from the VA. A resident with assets less than \$10,000.00 is charged according to a formula that is applied to the resident's gross monthly income as follows: a resident pays 85% of total monthly income reduced by \$65.00 for personal use. A resident with assets exceeding \$10,000 will pay the monthly maximum for either a veteran or a nonveteran.

In addition to the above, residents will be billed on an after the fact basis for medical purchases made on their behalf by this home. Services rendered for the monthly maintenance fee include, but are not limited to, a furnished private room, meals, laundry service, nursing service, and limited transportation. There are weekly trips to the Sheridan Veterans Affairs Medical Center primarily for medical appointments for our veterans.

Planned activities in the home include bingo, movies, pool tournaments, and birthday and holiday celebrations. Outdoors activities include fishing in the trout pond on the grounds, picnics in summer, sightseeing trips, attending local events, and shopping trips in downtown Buffalo. Service clubs, churches, schools, and individual volunteers visit with and entertain the residents. There is a hobby shop, and the residents work with lapidary equipment, painting, woodworking, models, and kits of various kinds.

The home is under the direction of the Wyoming Department of Health and is supervised by John R. (Jack) Tarter. For further information or application procedures call or write:

Veterans' Home of Wyoming
700 Veterans' Lane,
Buffalo, WY 82834-9402
Tel. No. (307) 684-5511
Fax No. (307) 684-7636
E-mail: jtarte@state.wy.us

VETERANS' GUARDIANSHIPS

The Uniform Veterans' Guardianship Act has been adopted in Wyoming and governs the handling of guardianship estates of wards that are beneficiaries under the laws administered by the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The VA is a party in interest in any proceeding brought under this Act. Guardians can have no more than five wards, and regular accountings must be made. See the provisions of Sections 3-6-101 through 3-6-119, W. S. for further details.

WYOMING VETERANS TAX EXEMPTION

W.S. §39-13-105

Qualifications:

- 1. Honorably Discharged and you must be a Wyoming resident at the time of entry into the military service or you must have resided in Wyoming for three years prior to application.**
- 2. Honorably discharged veterans (Wyoming residents) who were awarded the armed forces expeditionary medal or other authorized service or campaign medal indicating service for the United States in any armed conflict in a foreign country.**
- 3. You must provide your separation papers (DD-214).**

Exemption applies to county fees, not state fees. Maximum exemption is \$800.00. Maximum yearly deduction is approximately \$60.00 per year for license plates and \$150.00 per year for property taxes. You must advise the county assessor of intent to use tax exemption annually until fully used. Deadline for notification is on or before the fourth Monday in May of the ensuing calendar year.

Surviving spouses of qualified veterans not re-married and fulfilling residence requirements can reopen exemption. It is a lifetime benefit with no maximum limit, except for the yearly limitations.

The current property tax exemption also applies to 100% service connected disabled veterans and veterans who have been granted service connected individual unemployability status certified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Disabled veterans, after using lifetime \$800 exemption, can continue getting that part of it based on percentage of disability certified by VA or a branch of armed forces.

FREE (CONFIDENTIAL) RECORDING OF HONORABLE DISCHARGES

Wyoming law grants all veterans who receive an honorable discharge from the military services of the United States the right of having his/her discharge papers, usually the DD 214 or the Honorable Discharge certificate bearing the DD 214 information on its reverse side, recorded free in the office of the county clerk if the documents have not been recorded previously in another county of the state. The County Clerk keeps this document confidential. (W.S. §19-14-104)

EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS FOR WAR ORPHANS AND VIETNAM VETERANS PROVIDED BY WYOMING LAW

W. S. §19-14-106

Free tuition and fees for education to the spouse and children of deceased veterans' (whose death is service connected) and active state service eligibility are now available.

BENEFITS FOR WAR ORPHANS:

Tuition waiver for not more than 10 semesters of credit classes on a full or part-time basis at any of Wyoming's Community Colleges or the University of Wyoming; no expiration date; no requirement of continuous enrollment.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR WAR ORPHANS:

- Parent was a resident of Wyoming at the time of entering service
- Parent died while in service during a period of war defined by law or is listed officially as being a POW or MIA in Korean or Vietnam conflicts
- Parent was honorably discharged from military forces and thereafter died of an injury or disease incurred while in service, being a resident at time of death.

BENEFITS FOR VIETNAM VETERANS:

Tuition waiver for not more than 10 semesters of credit classes on a full or part-time basis at any of Wyoming's Community Colleges or the University of Wyoming; no expiration date; no requirement of continuous enrollment.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR VIETNAM VETERANS:

- Served in the military between Feb 28, 1961 and May 7, 1975
- Received the Vietnam Service Medal
- Discharged other than dishonorably
- A resident of Wyoming for at least one year
- Not using benefits under the old G.I. Bill or receiving other tuition assistance

APPLICATION FOR WIDOWS, WAR ORPHAN AND VIETNAM VETERAN BENEFITS:

A War Orphan or Veteran should apply at least two or three weeks before the beginning of the semester at any Wyoming community college or the university where he or she plans to attend.

WYOMING NATIONAL GUARD 100% STATE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PLAN

W.S. §§19-9-501 to 504

The 100% State Educational Assistance Plan is for Wyoming National Guard members that want to pursue higher education. The plan pays 100% of the tuition and mandatory fees at Wyoming Junior colleges and at the University of Wyoming. The plan pays a determined amount each year for those private schools in Wyoming that are VA approved.

Guard members can use the state educational assistance to complete one degree or certificate program. This includes: Certificates, Associate, Bachelors, Masters, or PhD program. The combination of Certificate, Associate to Bachelor counts as one degree.

Members can use the MGIB and kicker if qualified with the 100% State Educational Assistance Plan.

Basis qualifications are:

- Members must have served or are serving on a six-year contract with the Wyoming National Guard. Must have completed basic training or officer training; meet participation standards; and be in good standing with the Guard.
- Members must maintain a cumulative 2.0 GPA in school and agree to serve two years with the Wyoming Guard after completion of school.
- Members have ten years to complete their degree or educational objective.

The ten years start the first time members enroll in the plan. Failure to maintain satisfactory participation in the educational program or failure to complete the initial six-year commitment, or the two-year additional service, obligates a member to repay all educational assistance received.

An application packet must be completed for each term enrolled. Members can pick up application packets at their units, college financial aid offices, and state education office and on the web site: <http://wyoguard.state.wy.us/>. For questions contact the State Education office at (307)-772-5262.

EDUCATION BENEFITS FOR NATIONAL GUARD FAMILY MEMBERS:

W. S. §19-9-403

Matriculation fees and tuition paid in the University of Wyoming or any junior college or vocational training institution in Wyoming for child or spouse of Wyoming National Guard member who dies or sustains permanent total disability from duty as guardsman while on state active duty or any authorized training duty.

SPECIAL VETERANS LICENSE PLATES

Disabled Veterans

A disabled veteran who receives fifty percent or more service-connected disability compensation from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs may apply for distinctive license plates for his or her vehicle. Contact the county treasurer's office of the disabled veteran's county to obtain the form to make an application for these license plates.

Fees for disabled veterans' license plates for disabled veterans who receive fifty percent (50%) or more service-connected disability compensation are now exempt.

FORMER PRISONER OF WAR

Any person who, while serving in the armed forces of the U.S., was imprisoned by an enemy of the U.S. during a period of conflict with the United States may use a special license plate for POW's. The applicant must be a resident of Wyoming at the time the application is made to the state on forms provided by the county treasurer's office.

PEARL HARBOR SURVIVOR

Any person applying to the state for a Pearl Harbor license plate on a form from the county treasurer's office must provide documentation that they;

- Were a member of the United States Armed Forces on December 7, 1941.
- Were on station on December 7, 1941, during the hours of 7:55 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. Hawaii time at Pearl Harbor, the island of Oahu, or offshore not to exceed three miles.
- The applicant must have received an honorable discharge from the U.S. Armed Forces
- Is the surviving spouse of a deceased survivor that complied with any of the above.

PURPLE HEART

Any person who has received the Purple Heart Medal may apply to the state on a form available at his/her county treasurer's office for a distinctive license plate with proper documentation that establishes him/her as a legally authorized recipient.

NATIONAL GUARD

Any member of the Wyoming National Guard, or National Guard retiree, may apply for a distinctive license plate providing he/she presents proper documentation to support his/her claim.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

No fees are charged for Special License Plates, though with the exception of the POW and 50% service connected Disabled Veteran plates, regular registration fees are payable when getting the plates. Too, all veterans entitled to have Special License Plates are also eligible to display Veterans Service Emblems on their plates.

VETERANS' LICENSE PLATE SERVICE EMBLEMS

W.S. § 31-2-204

Veterans that served in any branch of the Armed Forces during the era of World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War or Gulf War and received a discharge other than dishonorable are entitled to display those wars' Service Emblems. In accordance with law and regulations, on the license plates of all their automobiles, trucks and motorcycles for the life of their plates. Service Emblems may be obtained from the Wyoming Veterans' Commission at cost plus a statutory fee of \$11.00. This helps finance the Commission's programs for Wyoming's veterans. Currently, the total charge for motor vehicles is \$11.50 and for motorcycles is \$11.00, which includes all costs for production, postage and handling.

WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES

W.S. SS9-2-2601 et seq.

The Department of Workforce Services (DWS) is Wyoming's newest state agency, dedicated to developing a demand-driven workforce that is responsive to Wyoming's businesses, citizens, and economy. Veterans Services ensure assistance is provided or targeted to veterans, including services for veterans who are disabled or have employment issues. A variety of employment and training services are available through DWS and can be easily accessed at: www.wyomingworkforce.org

DWS provides services throughout the state from its twelve (12) integrated Local Workforce Centers (LWC's) and seven (7) satellite centers. Staff located in the nineteen (19) Local Workforce and Vocational Rehabilitation Centers provide veterans' priority of service when referring individuals to employment, training, and placement services. In accordance with the implementation of the Veterans' Priority Provisions of the "Jobs for Veterans Act" (PL 107-288), qualified veterans will receive priority referral to services over non-veterans as determined by each program's mandatory eligibility criteria. Local Veterans Employment Representatives (LVER) and Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) representatives maintain a large repository of information about employment, education, and training opportunities as well as veterans' rights and benefits, employment trends and Labor Market Information. A [Directory](#) of (DVOP) and (LVER) representatives in Wyoming is available on the DWS link above.

For more detailed information on veterans' services available, visit or contact one of the 19 LWC's. A list of the LWC's is available on the DWS link above.

A new joint program between the Wyoming Veterans' Commission and the Department of Workforce Services will place Veterans; Outreach Representatives strategically about the state. Joining that group is a Wyoming Veterans' Commission Outreach Supervisor located in Casper.

DWS OUTREACH SPECIALISTS

Connie Brewer
1901 Energy Ct. #230
Gillette, WY 82718
Phone: 307-686-2975

Ken Johnson
851 Werner Ct. #120
Casper, WY 82601
Phone: 307-233-4608

Pat Estes
851 Werner Ct. #120
Casper, WY 82601
Phone: 307-234-4591

Donna Lorentz
1510 E. Pershing Blvd
Cheyenne, WY 82002
Phone: 307-777-3700

Andrew Winter
2415 Foothills Blvd #100
Rock Springs, WY 82901
Phone: 307-352-2605

James Mouw
1026 Blackburn St #1
Cody, WY 82414
Phone: 307-587-4241

Dan Paustain
61 S. Gould St
Sheridan, WY 82801
Phone: 307-672-9775

Ron Franck
112 S. 5th St
Laramie, WY 82070
Phone: 307-742-2153

William Jacobs
422 E. Fremont Ave
Riverton, WY 82501
Phone: 307-856-9231

Terry Higginbotham
1510 E. Pershing Blvd
Cheyenne, WY 82002
Phone: 307-777-3700

VETERANS PREFERENCE

Under the law, eligible veterans (separated from the Armed Services under conditions other than dishonorable) are entitled to receive preference over non-veterans in selection and referral to job opportunities in every public department and upon all public works in Wyoming. Veterans' widows are entitled to the same preference during widowhood. Disabled veterans are entitled to priority over other veterans for such services. One year's residence is required for preference, and such residence must be in the city or county in which a veteran asserts preference for a municipal or county job. Veterans and those with service-connected disabilities are entitled to points advantage on any merit system examination.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (CLAIMS FILING)

Claims for Unemployment Insurance (UI), including interstate and intrastate, can be filed using the Internet or the telephone. A telephone or Internet access will be provided to you when you visit the local Employment Center for filing your claim.

***Internet filing:** Via the Web at: <http://wyui.doe.state.wy.us>

***Telephone filing:** In Wyoming, call the Wyoming Claims Center at 1-(307)-473-3789. Outside Wyoming, call the Claims Center at 1-(866)-729-7799.

Veterans can receive information about their eligibility, benefits, appeal rights, and many other important facts about Unemployment Insurance.

Note that there are new protections for employers granting the Guard member their old job back.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROGRAMS

The purpose of Unemployment Insurance for veterans is to provide a weekly income for a limited period of time to help them meet basic needs while searching for employment. Benefits are paid from federal funds.

Former service men and women are entitled to Unemployment Insurance in Wyoming on the same terms and conditions as Wyoming workers who have worked for non-military employers in the state.

Entitlement to benefits under the federal law requires:

1. You must have 90 days or more continuous service (unless separated because of a service-connected disability);
2. Must not have been discharged or released under dishonorable, or less than honorable, conditions or, in the case of officers, must not have resigned "for the good of the service;" and
3. Must be able to and available for work, and actively seeking work.

File a claim for Unemployment Insurance at the nearest ERC office immediately after leaving the service. Be certain to bring your DD-214 to establish your type of separation from the service.

In Wyoming, military separation payments, including voluntary separation incentives, will postpone receipt of UI benefits.

WYOMING EMPLOYMENT RESOURCES DIVISION ONE-STOP EMPLOYMENT CENTERS

Casper Telephone 234-4591 851 Werner Ct., Suite 120 Casper, WY 82601-1308	Riverton Telephone 856-9231 422 East Fremont Riverton, WY 82501-1610
Laramie Telephone 742-2153 112 S. Fifth Street PO Box 948 Laramie, WY 82070-0948	Evanston Telephone 789-9802 98 Independence Drive PO Box 3210 Evanston, WY 82931-3210
Cheyenne Telephone 777-3700 6101 North Yellowstone Road P. O. Box 20090 Cheyenne, WY 82003-7002	Rock Springs Telephone 382-2747 79 Winston Dr, Suite 229 Rock Springs, WY 82901-5770
Rawlins	Gillette

Telephone 324-3485 1703 Edinburgh P. O. Box 70 Rawlins, WY 82301-0070	Telephone 682-9313 1901 Energy Court, Suite 230 PO Box 1448 Gillette, WY 82717-1448
Cody Telephone 587-4241 1026 Blackburn, Suite #1 Cody, WY 82414-8464	Sheridan Telephone 672-9775 2266 North Main Sheridan, WY 82801-9225
Jackson Telephone 733-4091 155 W. Gill Ave Box 1003 Jackson, WY 83001-1003	Torrington Telephone 532-4171 1610 East "M" Street PO Box Z Torrington, WY 82240-3508

WYOMING DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION (DVR)

Advancing jobs and independence for Wyoming residents with disabilities is the overriding mission of DVR.

To be eligible:

1. The person must have a physical or mental disability.
2. The disability must result in a substantial handicap to employment.
3. The person may reasonably be expected to benefit, in terms of employability, from his/her rehabilitation services.

DVR provides vocational counseling and guidance to all clients. Other services such as physical and mental restoration, maintenance, training, diagnoses, evaluation, job placement and transportation may also be available. These latter services are tailored to the needs of each individual client.

OFFICES ARE LOCATED AT:

Casper	951 Werner Ct., #120	82601	261-2172
Cheyenne	6101 N. Yellowstone	82009	777-7341
Cody	1026 Blackburn, Suite 3	82414	527-7174
Douglas	135 S. 3rd Street	82633	358-4688
Evanston	350 City View Dr., #205	82931	789-2766
Gillette	310 S. Miller Ave, Ste. G	82716	682-2672
Jackson	Box 2873, 145 W. Gill	83001	733-6150
Lander	259 Main Street	82520	332-4465
Laramie	710 Garfield, #110	82070	754-3160
Newcastle	719 Washington	82701	746-4592
Rawlins	212 W. Buffalo, #164	82301	324-2238
Riverton	609 Madison	82501	856-2393
Rock Springs	79 Winston Dr., #121	82901	362-2770

Sheridan	2266 N. Main	82801	674-7529
Torrington	1618 East M Street	82240	532-4431
Worland	1702 Robertson	82401	347-3396

FREE VETERANS GAME AND FISH LICENSES

W.S. §23-1-705[d]

The Game and Fish Department shall issue without charge lifetime bird, small game and fish licenses to any resident or honorably discharged veteran who is over 65 years of age and who has continuously resided in Wyoming for at least the 30 years immediately preceding application for the license, or to any disabled veteran who is 100% disabled as determined by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs. The license is valid so long as the licensee remains a Wyoming resident. Contact one of the regional offices or the state office of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department for application forms, or call the Wyoming Veterans' Commission state office for more information. Game and Fish Department Regional Offices are in Jackson and Pinedale [Region1], Cody[2], Sheridan[3], Green River[4], Laramie[5], Lander[6], and Casper[7]. Game and Fish Department state office toll-free is 1-800-842-1934 (in-state only).

FREE FISHING LICENSES FOR DISABLED VETERANS

Wyoming veterans that are 50% or more service-connected disabled are eligible to receive a free Wyoming lifetime fishing license. To make application, ask for the application forms from the Commission office in Casper or in person at one of the major Wyoming Department of Fish and Game office.

FREE STATE PARKS PASS FOR DISABLED VETERANS

Wyoming veterans that are 50% or more service-connected disabled are eligible to receive a free Wyoming lifetime State Parks Pass. To make application, ask for the application forms from the Commission office in Casper or in person at the Cheyenne Parks Pass office in the Barret Building.

OPERATION RECOGNITION (HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA):

Veterans of WW II, Korea and Vietnam that were unable to complete their Wyoming high school education before entering service, either by draft or enlistment is entitled to have their high school diploma. All Wyoming high schools participate with the Commission in this important program. Even veterans who got their GED certificates after returning home are eligible, too. In cases of closed high schools, diplomas are issued by high schools that took in the closed ones. Application is made through the Commission office.

FAMILY SUPPORT GRANT PROGRAM:

Wyoming Guard, Reserves and Active personnel have available a newly created trust fund administered by the Adjutant General from which “grantor of last resort” funds are available for service members and their family members in need of assistance. For more details on this program, contact the Family Services Offices in Cheyenne by dialing 1-800-832-1959 and following the instructions.

COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER(S):

A new program that is in its early stages is the County Veteran Service Officer (CVSO) program. These are dedicated and trained volunteers that can help a veteran start the process of accessing State and Federal benefits. At the present time, Wyoming has only two southwestern counties participating in the CVSO program, but in surrounding states, there are literally hundreds of CVSOs that help their state veterans access benefits.

These CVSOs are located in:

Uinta County: Glenn Pearmain, 307-778-7508

Sweetwater: Patty Burgin, 307-382-9641 Hours are limited, so please be patient and leave a message.

VETERAN COMMISSION NEWSLETTER

Wyoming Veterans’ Commission publishes *WY-VET NEWS*, a tri-yearly publication in conjunction with the Wyoming National Guard Retiree Newsletter. It carries articles of special interest to veterans dealing with laws and information respecting benefits provided by the state and federal governments. Unlike many other states’ newsletters, from time to time, it also prints articles of general interest to veterans to promote readership interest.

There is no charge for subscriptions. Voluntary donations toward the expense of publishing and mailing list may be made to the state office. To be added to the subscription list, merely call the state office, or write, and give us your full name and mailing address. You may also contact the state office via email at wvac@bresnan.net. Present subscribers that are getting printed copies and have an e-mail service are encouraged to change over to e-mail delivery to help reduce expenses for printing and mailing.

WYOMING’S VETERANS’ MEMORIAL MUSEUM

Wyoming’s Veterans’ Memorial Museum was dedicated Memorial Day 2002 thereby making it the first state veterans’ memorial honoring all veterans of all services of all wars. It accepts and displays donated war related memorabilia and artifacts, and it collects recordings and printed copy of veterans’ experiences for history research scholars as well as books and other publications.

It is located in the Servicemen’s Club Building on the grounds of the former Casper Army Air Base that was a training base for bomber crews during World War II. Strikingly

beautiful murals on the walls of the museum, painted by four soldiers stationed at the base, depict the early history of Wyoming. The former base is listed the National Register of Historic Places. The museum is at today's Natrona County International Airport northwest of Casper on U.S. Highways 20 and 26.

It is a must-see sight for all veterans and their families. It is designed to heighten the public's – particularly young peoples' – awareness of veterans and their role in our nation's history. It is a valuable learning experience.

Please note that effective 1 July 2005, this fine museum will be operated and maintained by State Parks and Recreation. Summer hours are from noon to five p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. For information on visiting hours during other seasons call the museum at (307) 472-1857.

WYOMING VETERANS' COMMISSION

W.S. §19-14-107

The Commission is an agency created by state law in 1975 that is part of the Wyoming Military Department headed by the Adjutant General. It keeps informed on issues affecting Wyoming veterans and makes appropriate recommendations to the Governor and legislature. By statute, the Commission's duties include:

- (i) Study all federal and state legislation affecting veterans, their spouses, dependents and beneficiaries;
- (ii) Establish liaison with agencies dealing with veteran's affairs;
- (iii) Make recommendations to the legislature and to the governor concerning veterans; and
- (iv) Adopt policies and procedures necessary to administer then veterans' burial team account pursuant to W.S. 19-14-109.

The Commission in 1983 established the Oregon Trail State Veterans' Cemetery, which is now operated and maintained by the Military Department. The law designates the Commission to be a consultant in the cemetery's operations.

The Commission has twelve members, unpaid though entitled to expense reimbursement. The five members (increasing to 12 on 1 July 1999), which are appointed by the Governor from nine geographic districts for three year staggered terms.. The chairman and secretary are elected by the Commissioners and a Vice-Chairman appointed by the newly elected Chairman. Appointments are made without regard to political affiliation, sex, and religion or ethnic background and include active members of Veterans Service Organizations. Further veteran's information can be obtained by writing:

Wyoming Veterans' Commission
Wyoming Army National Guard Armory, Room 101
5905 CY Avenue

Casper, WY 82604

or by telephoning the Wyoming Veterans' Commission at 1-800-833-5987. Casper Area Callers dial 265-7372; facsimile at (307) 265-7392, or by e-mail at: wvac@bresnan.net

FEDERAL BENEFITS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

The services rendered by the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) break down into three distinct categories: Benefits, medical and cemetery. Employees of the Cheyenne VA Regional Office provide current information on VA benefits and claims procedures to veterans, their dependents and survivors.

Information on medical services can be obtained from either the Cheyenne VA Medical Center (VAMC), the Sheridan VAMC or the VA Outpatient Clinics located in Casper, Gillette, Powell and Riverton. An outpatient clinic in Green River sponsored by the Salt Lake City VA Medical Center is operating under the VA's contract with the Castle Rock Medical Center located at 1400 Uinta Drive in Green River. There is a veterans' outpatient clinic that sets up in the Weston County Health Services Building, in Newcastle, every second Wednesday of each month.

There is no national cemetery located in Wyoming. The state veteran's cemetery, the Oregon Trail State Veterans Cemetery, at Evansville, is fifty percent funded by the VA National Cemetery Administration solely for capital improvements, not operating expenses. It is, therefore, a part of the national cemetery system.

BENEFIT PROGRAMS

There are a variety of benefits available to eligible veterans, their dependents and survivors. A partial listing for veterans includes: Disability compensation; other disability benefits such as specially adapted homes, automobile assistance and clothing allowance; pensions; education and training; vocational rehabilitation; home loan guaranties; and life insurance. A listing for survivors includes: Dependency and indemnity compensation; death pension; and dependents' education. To obtain current information on VA benefits and/or claims procedures, call 1-800-827-1000 from any location in the United States. Your call will automatically be routed to the nearest regional office. If you are calling from Cheyenne or out of state and wish to contact the local Cheyenne office, the number is: 1-888-483-9127. The VA also has a telecommunications service for the Deaf: (TDD) 1-800-829-4833. VA supervisory personnel occasionally monitor calls for courteous and correct responses to the public, however no record is kept of the name of the caller.

HEALTH-CARE BENEFITS:

Among the health-care benefits provided by the VA are: Hospital and outpatient care; nursing-home care; domiciliary care; outpatient pharmacy services; outpatient dental treatment; alcohol and drug dependence treatment; prosthetic services; services and aids for blind veterans; readjustment counseling; home improvements and structural alterations; and medical care for dependents and survivors.

Cheyenne VA Medical and Regional Office Center (2360 East Pershing Boulevard, Cheyenne 82001) provides primary and secondary inpatient services in medicine, surgery as well as outpatient services in medicine, surgery and psychiatry. It has outpatient facilities in Cheyenne, Ft. Collins, Colorado and Greeley, Colorado. The general telephone number to reach the Center and the Cheyenne outpatient clinic is: (307) 778-7550. Presently, the Center has an operating bed level of 21 medical care beds. The medical center also supports a 50 bed Nursing Home Unit located within the main hospital. A Post Combat Trauma Unit has been established to provide counseling and therapy to veterans suffering from the effects of their combat experience. The Homeless Chronically and Mentally Ill Unit provides services to homeless veterans suffering from mental/physical disabilities. Other special health care programs are available to women veterans and former Prisoners of War (P.O.W.'s). The Center provides health care to veteran population service area containing approximately 59,000 veterans. The Center provided over 65,290 outpatient visits during FY 98. That figure includes outpatient clinic visits to the University of Wyoming Family Practice Medical Clinic in Casper, under a pilot program initiated by the Center that ended in 1998, and to the Center's clinics in Ft. Collins and Greeley. Tertiary care, such as open-heart surgery and neurosurgery, is provided by the Denver VA Medical Center. In addition, the Center serves as the clinic of jurisdiction for the State of Wyoming. Telephone numbers to reach the outpatient clinics, in addition to the one at the Cheyenne VA Medical Center, (307) 778-7550, are: Ft. Collins (970) 224-1550, and Greeley (presently limited to mental health care) (970) 313-0027.

Sheridan VA Center (1898 Fort Road, Sheridan 82801) is 292-bed non-affiliated neuropsychiatric facility providing high quality primary and secondary medical and psychiatric care. Its general telephone number is (307) 672-3473. Included in the bed complement are 7 acute medical, 1 intensive care/coronary care unit, 50 nursing home care, and 8 acute, 10 sub-acute and 30 long-term psychiatric beds, along with an 57 beds most of which are for substance abuse cases. In FY 1998, the Sheridan VAMC provided hospital in-patient treatment to 5,889 veterans, and it provided out patient care to 46,191 veterans, a figure that does not include the outpatient clinics. The clinics were just opened in 1998 and therefore do not have enough experience for reporting a full fiscal year. The telephone numbers of those clinics are: Riverton, (307) 857-1211; Casper (307) 235-4143. To reach the VA outpatient clinic facilities in Green River, write the Castle Rock Medical Center at P. O. Box 219, Green River 82935, or telephone it at (307) 875-6010.

While Sheridan does not have an assigned Primary Service Area, population served is determined by a distributed population-planning base and extends primarily to veterans from Wyoming, Montana, Colorado, Utah and Idaho. Patients requiring elective surgery or tertiary medical care are usually referred to VAMC's in Denver, Cheyenne, or Salt Lake

City. Emergency surgery is performed locally at the Memorial Hospital of Sheridan County.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

This program helps the service-disabled veteran become employable and find a permanent position. You may be eligible for this program if the VA has rated your disability at 20 percent, or more, and your disability interferes with gaining or maintaining employment.

Veterans with a 10% disability also may be found eligible if they have a serious employment handicap. The services and benefits can be educational, vocational and personal counseling; tutorial assistance, reader or sign language interpreter service, and other special help training. If needed, medical and dental treatment, prosthetic aids, special equipment and special restorative services necessary to enter and stay in training, job counseling, planning, placement, and adjustment will be provided to enable you to obtain and maintain suitable employment and assistance necessary to achieve maximum independence in daily living.

As part of a rehabilitation program, the VA pays for your tuition, fees, books, tools and other program expense as well as providing a monthly living allowance for up to 48 months. Subject to being extended for medical or serious employment handicap reasons, you must complete a rehabilitation program within 12 years of a military discharge. If you qualify, you can take part in one or a combination of the following programs:

- College or University Trade
- Business, or Technical school education
- Apprenticeship or other on-the-job training
- On-farm training
- Employment services and assistance
- Under special circumstances, training in a rehabilitation facility, a sheltered workshop, or in your own home
- Self-employment
- VA-Work Study Program.

For further information contact any VA office. You may file your application for the VA vocational rehabilitation program while you are still on active duty and may even start a modified program prior to separation or discharge.

If your disabilities are not service-connected or if your service-connected disabilities do not qualify for VA's vocational rehabilitation program, you should contact your state vocational rehabilitation agency to learn what other options are available. Telephone: 1-800-827-1000 or (307) 778-7338.

VA SCHOOL INFORMATION - COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

Casper College
125 College Drive
Casper, WY 82601
Phone: (307) 268-2596
<http://www.casper.college.edu>

Central Wyoming College
2660 Peck Ave.
Riverton, WY 82501
Phone: (307) 855-2000
<http://www.cwc.whecn.edu>

Eastern Wyoming College
3200 West "C"
Torrington, WY 82240
Phone: (307) 532-8200
<http://ewcweb.ewc.cc.wy.us>

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
90 MSS/DPE
7105 Alden Drive
F.E. Warren Air Force Base, WY 82005
<http://www.erau.edu>

Laramie County Community College
1400 E. College Drive
Cheyenne, WY 82001
(307) 778-5222
<http://www.cc.wy.us>

Northwest Community College
6th & Cheyenne
Powell, WY 82435
(307) 754-6111
<http://www.nwc.whecn.edu/homepage>

TRADE & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

Academy of Hair Design
146 North Jackson
Casper, WY 82601
Phone: (307) 577-0619

Cheeks International Academy of Beauty
207 West 18th
Cheyenne, WY 82001

Park College
90 MSS/DPE
7105 Alden Drive
F.E. Warren AFB, WY 82005
<http://www.park.edu/homepage>

Preston University
1204 Airport Parkway
Cheyenne, WY 82001
Phone: (307) 634-1440
<http://www.preston.edu>

Sheridan College
P.O. Box 1500
Sheridan, WY 82801
Phone: (307) 674-6446
<http://www.sc.wheen.edu>

University of Wyoming
P.O. Box 3355
University Station
Laramie, WY 82071
<http://www.uwyo.edu>

Western Wyoming College
P.O. Box 428
2500 College Drive
Rock Springs, WY 82901
Phone: (307) 382-1600
<http://www.wvcc.wy.edu>

National Outdoor Leadership School
P.O. Box AA
Lander, WY 82520
Phone: (307) 332-6973
<http://www.nols.edu>

Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy
1556 Riverbend Drive

Phone: (307) 634-2144

**Cosmetic Arts & Sciences
2014 CY Ave
Casper, WY 82601
Phone: (307) 234-9181**

**Wyoming Technical Institute
4373 North 3rd
Laramie, WY 82072
Phone: 800-742-3776
<http://www.wyomingtech.com>**

**Douglas, WY 82633
Phone: (307) 358-3617
<http://www.wleacademy.com>**

**Sage Corporation
190 Pronghon
Casper, WY 82604
<http://www.sageschools.com>**

**Commercial Flight Training
Wyoming Air corp.
8410 Parkway
Casper, WY 82604
Phone: (307) 472-1377 or 237-7007**

For educational benefit information including rates, forms, and eligibility information on the web go to: <http://www.gibill.va.gov>. For questions or problems on your VA education benefits, contact:

**VA Regional Office (St. Louis)
Phone: 1-888-GIBILL1 (442-4551)**

For questions on approved schools or On-the-Job Training and Apprenticeship programs, contact:

**Wyoming State Approval Agency
Phone: (307) 772-5053
FAX (307) 772-5010**

VETERAN OUTREACH CENTERS

The Vet Center Program was established by Congress in 1979 out of the recognition that a significant number of Vietnam Era Veterans were experiencing readjustment problems. Vet Centers are community based and part of the Department of Veterans Affairs. In April 1991, in response to the Persian Gulf War, Congress extended the eligibility to veterans who served during other periods of armed hostilities after the Vietnam Era. Those other periods of armed hostilities are identified as Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, Persian Gulf, Somalia, Haiti, and Bosnia. The goal of the Vet Center program is to provide a broad range of counseling, outreach, and referral services to eligible veterans and their families in order to help them make a satisfactory post-war readjustment to civilian life.

Some of the services provided are:

- **Individual Counseling**
- **Group Counseling**
- **Marital/Family Counseling**
- **Alcohol/Drug Assessment and Referral or Counseling**

- Spouse/Significant Other Group
- Benefits Assistance and Referral
- Job Referral
- Employment Counseling & Guidance
- Community Education
- Liaison with VA Facilities
- Referral to Community Agencies
- Contract with selected local/community agencies or counselors

These services are provided free to the veterans and their families. All counseling and veterans information is held in the strictest confidence. Vet Centers are located in Casper and Cheyenne and an outstation located in Ft. Collins, Colorado.

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The Women Veterans Health Care Reform Act of 1992 authorizes counseling for women veterans who have experienced acts of sexual violence or harassment while on active duty.

Some of the services provided are:

- Individual Counseling
- Group Counseling
- Marital/Family Counseling
- Alcohol/Drug Assessment and Referral or Counseling
- Spouse/Significant Other Group
- Benefits Assistance and Referral
- Job Referral
- Employment Counseling & Guidance
- Community Education
- Liaison with VA Facilities
- Referral to Community Agencies
- Contract with selected local/community agencies or counselors

These services are provided free to the veterans and their families. All counseling and veterans information is held in the strictest confidence.

Vet Centers are located in Casper and Cheyenne and an outstation located in Ft. Collins, Colorado.

<i>Casper Vet Center</i>	<i>Cheyenne Vet Center</i>	<i>Ft. Collins Outstation</i>
<i>111 S. Jefferson</i>	<i>3130 Henderson Drive</i>	<i>330 S. College Ave.</i>
<i>Casper, WY 82601</i>	<i>Cheyenne, WY 82001</i>	<i>Ft. Collins, Co 80524</i>
<i>(307) 261-5355</i>	<i>(307) 778-7370</i>	<i>(970) 221-5176</i>

VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS' ASSISTANCE

Veteran Service Organizations, principally The American Legion, Disabled American Veterans (DAV), and the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), provide assistance to veterans and their dependents by representing them and otherwise assisting in presenting claims for care, compensation and benefits with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Such claims include service connected disability, dependency, and indemnity compensation, non-service connected disability, death pension, medical care, government insurance, burial benefits, vocational rehabilitation, educational benefits, home loans, and other VA benefits.

Veterans are not required to belong to these Veteran Service Organizations to receive help from their veteran's service officers. Neither are they required to pay the service officers for their services.

These veterans' service officers can be contacted at the Cheyenne VA Regional Office. Contact can also be made through local posts of Veteran Service Organizations. This is the address of the VA Regional Office and the Veteran Service Organizations' representative's veterans can contact:

Cheyenne VA Regional Office
2360 E. Pershing Blvd
Cheyenne, WY 82001

Eldon L. "Skeeter" Jones, American Legion Service Officer (307) 433-2750
Robert L. Craft, Jr., Veterans of Foreign Wars Service Officer (307) 778-7340
Disabled American Veterans (307) 433-2752

Though the Wyoming Department of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) does not have a full time National Service Officer (NSO) stationed in the Cheyenne VAMC, it does have an office there staffed by Stacey Fero, secretary, who can be reached at 433-2752. She can put callers in touch with a DAV NSO.

At the Sheridan VAMC, James Fair serves as the Veterans Service Benefits Counselor. He can be reached at telephone: (307) 672-1615.

Van Service to VA Medical Centers

There is free DAV bus service for veterans from Casper and other areas to the Cheyenne and Sheridan VA Medical Centers.

Both buses to Cheyenne and Sheridan run Monday through Friday. They leave at 6:00 a.m. from the Veteran Outreach Center in Casper located at 111 South Jefferson Street, which is just behind the Bradley Service Station on Second Street. To schedule a seat on any of the buses, telephone:

- In Casper, the Veteran Outreach Center at (307) 261-5355
- In Cheyenne, DAV Coordinator at (307) 778-7577
- In Sheridan, DAV Coordinator Doug Fenton, at (307) 672-3473

All DAV van trips are subject to weather permitting, of course.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR SERVICES

Veterans Reemployment Rights

The main purpose of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) is to assure that you, the veteran, can return to your former job with all accrued seniority, status and rate of pay that you would have received had you remained on the job and not entered military service.

Veterans, Guard and Reserve members are covered if the following eligibility requirements have been met:

1. The employer is a private entity, agency, organization, or state, local, or federal government.
2. The job was not temporary and non-recurring.
3. Verbal or written notice of military duty was provided to the employer.
4. You have not exceeded the five-year cumulative limit on periods of service.
5. You were released from service under "honorable conditions".
6. You report back to work in a timely manner
 - If military service was:
 - 1-30 days - report back at beginning of the first regularly scheduled workday
 - 31-180 days - reapply no later than 14 days after completion of the service
 - 181 or more days - individual must submit an application for reemployment within 90 days after completion of service

If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact:
Veterans Employment & Training Service

**U. S. Department of Labor
100 W. Midwest
P.O. Box 2760
Casper, WY 82604
(307) 261-5454**

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION PROGRAMS

**Federal Building, Room 4001
100 East B., Box 2839
Casper, Wyoming 82602-2839**

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) program offers financing, training and advocacy for small firms. SBA offices in every state, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, deliver these programs. In addition, the SBA works with thousands of lending, educational and training institutions nationwide.

Financial Assistance

SBA offers a variety of loan programs to eligible small business concerns. The SBA basic guaranty program makes loans available for many business purposes, such as real estate, expansion, equipment purchases, working capital or inventory. SBA can guarantee up to \$750,000 - generally between 70 percent and 80 percent of the loan amount - at an interest rate generally not to exceed 2.75 percent over the prime-lending rate.

Private lenders, usually banks, make most of SBA's business loans. The lender plays the central role in the loan delivery system. The applicant submits the loan application to the lender, who makes the initial review, and if approved for submission to SBA, forwards the application and analysis to the SBA office. If approved by SBA, the lender closes the loan and disperses the funds.

LowDoc - SBA's LowDoc Loan Program makes applying for a SBA loan guarantee more user friendly than it's ever been. LowDoc streamlines the loan application process for guaranteed loans under \$100,000. The approval process focuses on character, credit, and business experience. Under LowDoc, SBA can guarantee up to 80 percent of a loan made by a commercial lender to an existing business, a business purchase, or a business start-up. LowDoc relies heavily on a lender's experience and judgment of a borrower's credit history and character. The lender may require additional information.

Where to Obtain Help?

In each SBA office, there is a person designated as the Veterans Affairs Officer (VAO). This person should be your initial contact and resource person for information on SBA programs. So if you are a veteran who is interested in SBA services, call (307) 261-6500, write, or visit the SBA Veterans Affairs Officer in the SBA offices at the Casper address shown above.

1-800-827-5722	Provides recorded information about SBA programs and Services
1-800-697-4636	SBA and other government agency information
1-900-46304636	Downloadable SBA information files and .QWK mail
1-800-463-4636	SBA and other government agency information
	Downloadable shareware files
	Internet e-mail
	On-line searchable data banks
	Gateway
	E-Mail
Internet Telnet	http://www.sbaonline.sba.gov/
Internet e-mail	first.last@sbaonline.gov
202-205-6400	Technical support
202-205-7333	TDD
Data Parameters: 9600*, N,8,1 *or your maximum modem speed	

TRICARE

The entire state of Wyoming is in the Region 8 TRICARE Service Area. Wyoming has one Military Treatment Facility (MTF) located at the F. E. Warren AFB, Cheyenne. Currently, TRICARE Prime is only offered in the area surrounding this MTF. If you live outside this area, you may choose to use either TRICARE Extra or TRICARE Standard. Alternatively, you may choose TRICARE Prime if you acknowledge, by signing the appropriate section of the Enrollment Form, that your Primary Care Manager and approved specialists are located a greater driving time from your home than the TRICARE standards allow.

The address and telephone number of the Wyoming TRICARE Service Center are:

**F. E. Warren AFB
9910 Calvary Drive, Building 290
F.E. Warren AFB, WY 87205
(307) 772-4020**

TRICARE Service Centers (TSCs) are conveniently located at or near MTFs. The TSC is staffed by Health Care Finders and Beneficiary Services Representatives to assist you with your health care needs, and to answer your questions about the TRICARE program. TRICARE Service Centers are open five (5) days a week during regular business hours.

A Health Care Finder (HCF) is a Registered Nurse or a Physician Assistant who will assist your Primary Care Manager (PCM) with authorizations and referrals to appropriate health care services in the MTF and civilian provider network. The HCF also works closely with your Health Benefits Advisor (HBA) to coordinate the issuance of Non-Availability Statements. Please contact the HCF at your local TSC during business hours. A HCF information and authorization telephone line is available 24 hours a day, seven (7) days a week, for urgent and emergency care assistance. The HCC or Appointment Staff at

the TSC will also assist all beneficiaries, if desired, with finding physicians who can provide medical services.

Beneficiary Services Representatives (BSRs) are available to explain the three TRICARE plans – TRICARE Prime, Extra and Standard –and to help you make the right health care choice for you and your family members. If you choose to enroll in TRICARE Prime, a BSR can assist in selecting a PCM and will initiate the enrollment process.

The TRICARE Line for Care (TLC) is a free, confidential health and medical counseling service for all TRICARE beneficiaries. By calling the TLC, you can learn how to get answers to your questions about health and medical care.

Here are some key features of the service:

- **It is completely voluntary. Support is available through the TLC when you need it. All you do is call 1-888-887-4111.**
- **The TLC service is free. Just call 1-888-887-4111 with your questions 24 hours a day, 7days a week.**

No question is too big or small. Call the TLC for help in finding answers to your questions about health and medical care.